

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 518

By Overbey

A RESOLUTION to honor the memory of John Madison Smartt of Knoxville.

WHEREAS, the members of this General Assembly were greatly saddened to learn of the passing of John Madison Smartt, who gave freely of his time and talents in the community; and

WHEREAS, John Madison Smartt was born on February 24, 1919, to Alam Rogglie Smartt and Robert W. Smartt of McMinnville, Tennessee; and

WHEREAS, he attended the University of Tennessee, where he was a charter member of Omicron Delta Kappa, president of the Independent Student Association, and graduated with a Bachelor of Science in agriculture 1942. He later received a law degree from the University of Tennessee in 1948 after serving as an Army officer during World War II in the Aleutian Islands; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt remained actively involved in the University of Tennessee community, and he served as its Director of Alumni Affairs from 1948-1969; he also co-coordinated the Tennessee Law Institute, which offers continuing education to attorneys across the State of Tennessee, from 1972-1988; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt was also a loyal supporter of UT athletics, and he was a charter member of the Lady Vols Booster-Her club; he also served as head timer for the Vols swim team from 1970-1878; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt was a well-known and respected attorney, and he was deeply involved in the Knoxville Bar Association, in which he participated as Chair of KBA's Memorials Committee for many years and was one of the founding members of the KBA's Senior Section; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt was an active participant in the Senior Olympics from 1980-2012, competing in all running events on both the district and state level; he won fifth place in the 75-79 age group in the 1995 National Senior Games; and

WHEREAS, he was chosen to carry the Olympic torch in 1996 when it passed through Knoxville on its way to Atlanta; and

WHEREAS, an active and giving member of his local community, Mr. Smartt dedicated much of his time to making Knoxville a better place; he gave freely of his time and talents, raising money for the United Way and the Kiwanis Fresh-Air Camp, delivering food for FISH Hospitality Pantries, and singing Christmas carols while ringing the bell for the Salvation Army; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt was an active and devout member of the Second Presbyterian Church in Knoxville beginning in 1950, and served as a Sunday School teacher as well as as an elder; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt was also deeply devoted to family, and he always endeavored to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt enjoyed the loving companionship of his loving wife, Harriet, who preceeded him in death, and the couple is survived by their four children: John Smartt Jr. (Paula), Jane "Sadie" Strout (David), Doug Smartt (Caroline), and Bob Smartt (Mary Carole); they are also survived by 13 grandchildren and 11 great grandchildren; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smartt leaves behind an indelible legacy of integrity and probity in public life, compassion and loyalty in private life, and diligence and dedication in all his chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should pause to remember the bountiful life of this exceptional public servant and human being; now, therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we honor the memory of John Madison Smartt, reflecting fondly upon his impeccable character and his stalwart commitment to betterment of his community.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we express our sympathy and offer our condolences to the family of Mr. Smartt.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.